Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

# Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 219722

73
ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 ISO-00 PRS-01 AF-10

EUR-25 IO-14 PCH-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 SPC-03 ACDA-19 NSCE-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 /145 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:JEBRIGGS
APPROVED BY NEA/P:JEBRIGGS
S/PRS - MR. KING (INFO)
AF/P- MRS. RUSSELL
IO/P - MR. BLACHLY
EUR/P- MR. SAVAGE
NEA/EGY - MR. STERNER
H/MISS FOLGER (INFO)
S/S-O:G.TWOHIE
---------- 059515
O 072105Z NOV 73 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USINT CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
USINT ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 219722

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

USMISSION NATO
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY SANAA BY POUCH

UNCLAS STATE 219722

TOSEC 182

ZFF4 CAIRO ONLY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

TEL AVIV FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO

FOR YOUR INFORMATION FOLLOWING IS PARTIAL EXCERPT FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING NOVEMBER 7, 1973:

QUOTE: MR. VEST: I THINK I SHOULD BE SQUARE WITH YOU, BEFORE WE GO ON ANY FURTHER -- I THINK IT'S BETTER JUST TO PUT THIS ON RIGHT STRAIGHT OUT WITH YOU NOW: WE ARE OPERATING IN A PECULIAR SITUATION THERE. THERE ARE FAST-MOVING DEVELOPMENTS GOING ON IN THE MIDDLE EAST; I DON'T HAVE TO DESCRIBE THEM TO YOU IN ANY WAY.

I'M NOT GOING TO BE IN A POSITION TO SIT HERE, INTERPRET, AND SECOND-GUESS AN ACTIVITY WHICH IS A NEGOTIATION OF THE GRAVEST IMPORTANCE AND WHICH IS IN MID-STREAM. I CAN DEAL WITH FACTS, AND VERY LITTLE MORE THAN FACTS WHILE THIS ACTIVITY IS UNDER WAY. AND I DON'T WANT TO MISLEAD YOU. AND I THINK IT'S ONLY FAIR TO SAY THAT BEFORE WE BEGIN BECAUSE I THINK YOU'VE DEALT WITH ENOUGH NEGOTIATIONS IN THE PAST -- MOST OF YOU WHO HAVE BEEN HERE ANY LENGTH OF TIME -- TO KNOW THAT WHEN A NEGOTIATION IS GOING ON SOME-PLACE ELSE AND THE NEGOTIATOR IS AT WORK YOU CAN'T PLAY WITH HIM FROM AFAR.

Q. IS IT A FACT THAT THERE IS A BLOCKADE OF THE BAB EL
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PAGE 03 STATE 219722

MANDEB STRAITS?

A. I STICK BY WHAT I SAID YESTERDAY -- THAT THIS IS AN AMBIGUOUS SITUATION AND I COULD NOT SAY SO.

Q. BUT THAT THERE IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NEGOTIATIONS AND THE FACT OF SOMETHING ON THE WATER, SO TO SPEAK.

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

A. I JUST DON'T WANT TO PREJUDICE THE CASE IN ANY WAY.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY CONFIRMATION ON A REPORT THAT KUWAIT HAS REFUSED ENTREE TO MR. SISCO?

A. NO; I HAVE NOTHING FURTHER ON SISCO'S SCHEDULE FROM WHAT I TOLD YOU YESTERDAY -- THAT I AM EXPECTING, LATER IN THE WEEK, THE FIRM SCHEDULE, WHERE HE'S GOING. BUT I THINK IT'S CLEAR THAT THE NATURE OF THE CONVERSATIONS OUT THERE ARE LIKELY TO DETERMINE WHERE IT IS MOST USEFUL FOR HIM TO GO.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON THE COMMON MARKET STATEMENT TODAY ON THE MIDDLE EAST?

A. WELL, ON THE COMMON MARKET STATEMENT, FIRST I WOULD ONLY SAY THAT IT IS OBVIOUSLY A MOST INTERESTING DEVELOPMENT TO SEE THE EC NINE FOREIGN MINISTERS ACTING JOINTLY IN THE AREA OF FOREIGN POLICY.

TO GO BEYOND THAT, HOWEVER, AS TO THE SUBSTANCE OF THE RESOLUTION ITSELF -- AGAIN, I HAVE TO SAY THAT IN THE SITUATION WE FIND OURSELVES TODAY, I DON'T THINK IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR ME TO GO INTO ANY COMMENT OR CHARACTERIZATION. END QUOTE. RUSH

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED SANAA.

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

# Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994
**Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, PRESS CONFERENCES
**Control Number:** n/a
**Copy:** SINGLE
**Draft Date:** 07 NOV 1973
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960
**Decaption Note:**
**Disposition Action:** n/a
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Authority:** n/a
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:**
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
**Disposition Remarks:**
**Document Number:** 1973STATE219722
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**From:** STATE
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**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731149/aaaabjoo.tel
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a
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**Previous Classification:** n/a
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
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**Review Authority:** boyleja
**Review Comment:** n/a
**Review Content Flags:**
**Review Date:** 25 JAN 2002
**Review Event:**
**Review Exemptions:** n/a
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Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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**Secure:** OPEN
**Status:** NATIVE
**Subject:** DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING TEL AVIV FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO
**TAGS:** PFOR, XF, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
**To:** CAIRO MULTIPLE
**Type:** TE
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005